



Divine
Mercy

Sunday

Jesus,
I trust
in you.

Parish Communities of
St. John Vianney & St. Thomas the Apostle
St. John Vianney 973-697-6550 - St. Thomas the Apostle 973-208-0090
Website: www.stthomasjohn.org

The Parish Communities of

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY & SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE



Pastor's Corner

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

12 April 2026

My Lord and my God! He is Risen. He is truly Risen! Jesus, I Trust in You! Alleluia!
Thank You, Lord, for the precious gifts of my faith and trust in You! This gift is freely given by God to whomever He chooses. It cannot be bought, and it cannot be sold. God's grace is how such faith and trust in the Lord is attained.

According to the Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary by FAITH Catholic, "In the [Jubilee] Year of 2000, [Saint] Pope John Paul II designated the Second Sunday of Easter as the Sunday of Divine Mercy. As we continue to celebrate and give thanks for the Resurrection, we acknowledge that we need the risen Christ; we need His healing and His steadfast mercy." [1]

In today's Sacred Scripture passages, "The Book of Acts describes the communal life of the first believers. In his Letter, Peter praises God for the gift of new life through Christ's resurrection and commends his fellow believers for recognizing its value. Following His death and resurrection, Jesus appears to His disciples in a locked room and commissions them to go forth in His name. [However], Thomas is absent for this appearance and does not believe until Jesus appears again and urges him to touch Him and believe [that He has truly risen from the dead]. [2]

"When we receive the Eucharist, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of [our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ] are substantially present, yet disguised under the appearance of bread and wine. As with Thomas, the Lord gives us the ability to see and believe in Him." [3] This belief, this faith, is a gift given to those whom God chooses. *Not everyone* has been blessed to receive this gift of faith through the **opening of the eyes of one's mind and the eyes of one's heart**. Blessed, indeed are those to whom this precious gift of faith has been given! "A good prayer for the moments of consecration, then, is the confession of faith that Thomas makes: **'My Lord and my God!'**" [4]

We also learn that, "**Faith in Jesus' resurrection** has the power to **transform** our lives and the lives of those around us. **Time and time again, the Sacred Scriptures show the transformative power of belief in [faith in] Jesus' resurrection!** **St. John tells us that we become children of God through this belief [faith].** [5]

Jesus, I Trust in You! In God We Trust! – Do we have the same faith and trust in Jesus as the four friends who brought the paralytic, on a mat, to Jesus for healing through an opening in the roof of St. Peter's house in Capernaum because of the great crowds present there? Do we have the same faith and trust in Jesus as the woman who had suffered greatly from hemorrhages for twelve years? A Sacred Scripture reading from the First Letter of Saint John states that, "...Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by Him [Jesus Christ]." (1 John 5:1) [6]

In the Gospel passage for Divine Mercy Sunday (John 20:19-31), St. Thomas the Apostle refused to believe that the other Apostles and disciples had seen the Resurrected Lord unless he himself saw the nail marks in Jesus' hands, putting his finger into the nail marks and his hand into His side. Once St. Thomas the Apostle had seen the Risen Lord Jesus Christ with his own eyes, he came to believe that Jesus truly rose from the dead exclaiming, "**'My Lord and my God!'**" **This is not a knock against St. Thomas the Apostle! No. It is a statement to us about just how important faith and trust in God truly is for our salvation, and how blessed we are to have been given this precious gift of faith even though we have not physically seen Jesus Christ, in human form, with our bodily eyes! We instead "see" Him with the eyes of faith! "Because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."** (Romans 10:9) [7]

Never underestimate the gift of faith! The Gospel of St. Matthew states, "But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." (Matthew 13:16-17) [8]

Jesus, I Trust in You! In God We Trust! – Faith and trust in Jesus Christ are the means through which we receive healing of both body and soul! Having faith and trust in Jesus Christ is how we attain everlasting life! We are **alleluia** people! **We are truly blessed indeed! Happy Easter!**

Prayerfully, Fr. Ben

[1] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, 2026 Vol 59, No. 2, Pg. 153. [2] Ibid. [3] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, January 2022, Pg. 171. [4] Ibid. [5] Ibid. [6] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 216. [7] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 145. [8] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 13.

MASS *Intentions*

Saturday, April 11th

5:00 pm (STA)

† Walter R. Waksmundski Sr.

by Donna Demarest & Delores Waksmundski

5:00 pm (SJV)

Dat Khong by Thu Chu

Sunday, April 12th **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

SJV

8:00 am: † Loretta Walsh by Bill, Barbara & Patricia Walsh

10:00 am: † Ms. Deanna Schoupe by Les Pappianne

2:00 pm: Adoration & Confessions

3:00 pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction & Mass

STA

9:00 am: Birthday Blessings Donna Yazon Bolante

by Geronima & Arnulfo Bolante

11:00 am: † Edward Stanol by Jeannie and Eric Stroud

3:00 pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Veneration of Divine Mercy Image & Benediction

Monday, April 13th

6:30 pm - Eucharistic Adoration (STA)

7:30 pm † Deceased members of the Presbruhi Family by Mary Bacchetta

Novena to St. Peregrine immediately following Mass

Tuesday, April 14th

8:00 am (STA)

† Connor Johnson by The Mola Family

Wednesday, April 15th

8:00 am (STA)

12:00 pm (SJV)

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help immediately following Mass

Thursday, April 16th

8:00 am - Communion Service (STA)

Friday, April 17th

8:00 am (STA)

† Mary Ernst by Maureen & Steven Zignorski

Saturday, April 18th

5:00 pm (STA)

† Margie Milovcich by Veljko & Mary Bolobanic

5:00 pm (SJV)

† Maria Khoan Nguyen by Thu Chu

Sunday, April 19th

SJV

8:00 am (SJV)

10:00 am (SJV)

† Richard Lavelle by Teresa & Ed Zinck

STA

9:00 am (STA)

† Tonica Milcetic by Veljko & Mary Bolobanic

11:00 am (STA)

In Thanksgiving for the Bolante Family by Geronima & Arnulfo Bolante



Divine Mercy Sunday

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

3:00PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy,
Veneration of Divine Mercy image & Benediction

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

2:00PM Adoration with prerecorded meditations and Confessions
3:00PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction & Mass

THE BEREAVEMENT GATHERING

Next Meeting **Wednesday, April 15** at 7:00PM STA Classrooms

Additional Meetings: April 29, May 13, 27, June 10, 24,

If you have questions please call Maria Pasterchick at 201-506-3151
or sisco9458@gmail.com



Grief has no timeline

From Fr. Martin

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As we come to the conclusion of this beautiful and grace-filled celebration of Holy Week, the Sacred Triduum, and Easter, I would like to express **my heartfelt gratitude** to all who contributed in any way to these sacred days.

First and foremost, we give thanks to God for His abundant blessings, for the gift of our salvation, and for allowing us to celebrate these holy mysteries together as a parish family.

I am deeply grateful to all who served so generously: our ushers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and altar servers. A special word of thanks to William Bubniak for his dedication and service. I would also like to recognize and thank those who stepped forward to serve for the very first time: Beverly and Michael Kressler, and Stacey Schaffer.

Your willingness is a great gift to our community.

We are especially thankful to Skip and Judy Diller for arranging the beautiful floral decorations in the church, as well as to all who assisted them in this work. The beauty of our worship space truly reflected the joy of the Resurrection.

Our gratitude also extends to our music ministry, and in a special way to Neil Perrotta, who coordinates and leads this important aspect of our liturgy. Your efforts helped elevate our prayer and draw us more deeply into the sacred celebrations.

This Sunday, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. I warmly invite all of you to join us for an afternoon of prayer and devotion. From 2:00 to 3:00 PM, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for confession. At 3:00 PM, we will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The afternoon will conclude with a **solemn Mass celebrated with music**.

Let us continue to live the joy of Easter and trust in the infinite mercy of our Lord.

God bless you,
Fr. Martin

NEXT WEEKEND - SPECIAL GUEST

We are pleased to welcome Monsignor Kirian McHugh, retired priest from our Diocese and former president of Pope John XXIII Academy in Sparta, who will be with us next weekend. Monsignor McHugh will speak at all the Masses about the mission of the school, and he will be the main celebrant at the 10:00 AM Mass. Let us extend to him a warm and prayerful welcome.

SECOND COLLECTION - APRIL 18-19

On the weekend of April 18-19, there will be a second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

This national collection supports programs that assist those in need and help break the cycle of poverty.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



←--SCAN TO JOIN OUR
YOUTUBE CHANNEL



Divine Mercy Sunday *Apr. 11/12 '26*



In the **Catholic tradition**, a **prayer shawl** serves as a tangible reminder of God's care and love. It is often created through a ministry where parishioners knit or crochet shawls, infusing them with prayers for the recipients, who are often in need of comfort and support. These shawls are given freely, symbolizing the community's love and prayers, and they are intended to wrap the recipient in warmth and spiritual solace.

For information on receiving a blessed shawl or lap blanket (which come with the promise of continued prayer) you have two options:

- 1- Complete the form in the Narthex and put in envelope**
- 2- Use the form on the parish website**

Consider joining our ministry to create items made with love and to pray for all our recipients. You can craft at home and drop off your gift, and if you'd like, **join us for optional meetings at 7 pm on the second Thursday of each month in the STA classroom**. For more information see the "Prayer Shawl Ministry" tabs on the parish website, or email at prayershawlstasjv@gmail.com.

THURSDAY'S PRAYERFUL AND GENTLE STRETCH - COME JOIN US

"Exercising the body for the sake of the soul"

Focusing on gentle movements enhances concentration, improving prayer and reflection.

We meet Thursday mornings at 9:30 at St Thomas the Apostle in the classrooms.

Dates: **April 16, 23, & 30**

Donations are accepted to support Hope House.



EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 5, 2026

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

Envelopes, Loose Check & Cash:	\$8,120
Online Giving:	\$1,245
TOTAL:	\$9,365
Weekly Expenses:	\$5,598
Building Maintenance:	\$110
Last Year:	\$7,548

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Envelopes, Loose Checks & Cash:	\$15,400
Online Giving:	\$3,260
TOTAL:	\$18,660
Weekly Expenses:	\$6,972
Diocesan Assessment:	\$110
Last Year:	\$19,804

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!



With great joy, we welcome and congratulate those fulfilling their O.C.I.A. journey by being received into Full Communion at our Easter Vigil Mass.

This is not the end....this is just the beginning of our Catholic life!

Welcome Julia Decker, James Hascup, Mita Loza, Robert McCollum Alexis McGuire, Anthony Sariyan, and Emily Vertullo.

I would also like to thank Gerry Geary teaching and guiding them through the beginning of their faith journey. It could not have been done without him.

God Bless, Fr. Ben

A note from Gerry Geary: In weekly meetings we discuss, discover and apply the Catholic faith to our lives today. In a relaxed environment we hear and watch experts in the field and make basic sense out of the mysteries of our church teachings. While we become more comfortable with the bible (we could all use help there) we start to see how God's plan for us is being revealed historically and in a personal way. Contact me: gerry@ststthomasjohn.org

The Living Flame Sanctuary Lamps
at Saint Thomas the Apostle
for April 12 thru April 18
burns for
My dad Stanislaw Bladek
by his daughter and family



Catholic Charities **HOPE HOUSE**

If you can please, these are the items we are in most need of:

****RICE (WHITE, 1 OR 2 LB. BAGS)**

Toilet paper / Pasta sauce/

Pasta / Instant Coffee /

Toothpaste/Body wash/

Crackers / Cookies

**** URGENT NEED FOR RICE**

Donations can be dropped off when you come to Mass at St. Thomas or during the week at the STA Rectory Door under the overhang. You do not have to ring the door bell as the front door is checked throughout the day. The food doesn't stay there for long!

WOMAN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Women's Spirituality Group "In the Image of the Life of Jesus And Making Virtuous Decisions In A Misguided World"

Please bring a passage from Scripture that is meaningful for you or relevant to a situation you're dealing with. We meet the First and Third Mondays, in the STA classroom, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Call or text Janet Pfeiffer for more info: 201-213-8499 Or email Janet@PfeifferPowerSeminars.com

Catholic Charities Community Service,
Partnership for Social Services

FOOD PANTRY

During these uncertain economic times our food pantry is having a hard time keeping up with needs of those who struggle to put food on their table please help.

SOUPS

COFFEE (SMALL JARS)

CEREAL / PASTA /

PASTA SAUCE

You can drop off your donation of non perishable food items or monetary donations at St. John Vianney Church OR at the Food Pantry, Location: 48 Wyker Road, Franklin, NJ Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Flip top or easy open cans and or containers work best most homeless people cannot open cans.

From Father Ben and the STA Safety & Security Ministry:

For the safety of our parishioners the church doors will be kept locked at all times. Before masses please wait for the usher to open the door.

Please be patient while we work out the details. Thank you

Knights of Columbus Council #5510

CASH FOR GOLD

Fundraiser

Bring Your **Gold**
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Saturday, April 18th
From 10am - 1pm

To be held at:

St. Thomas the Apostle RC church hall
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Oak Ridge, NJ

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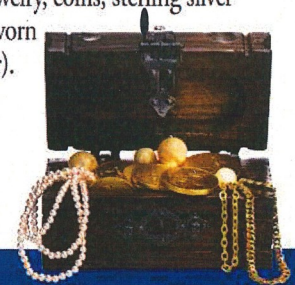
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Tricia Pezzulo 862-266-6492

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THE BOOK FOR MASS INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 2026—JUNE 2026

We invite you to prayerfully dedicate a Mass for your loved ones or special intentions.

Requests will be honored on a first-come, first-serve basis in the order in which the request is received in the Parish Office.

We accept Mass intentions by 2 methods: 1) email massintention@ststthomasjohn.org with the information below or 2) stop by the Parish Office during business hours.

When requesting an intention, please include the following as it is necessary to complete the intention in our system:

- **Which church – St. Thomas or St. John**
- **Intention for – name(s) an occasion (i.e. Anniversary) or general intention**
(i.e. For all the souls in Purgatory)
- **Indicate whether the person is deceased or Living**
- **Requested by – name(s)**
- **Requested mass date and time OR first available. Please note if the date requested has been taken we will email you an alternative date.**
- **Mass card requested can be picked up in the Parish office.**

**Mass Intentions are \$20 and can be paid by cash, check or online
(a payment link will be emailed).**

Thank you for your continued faith and generosity.

**Got rid of your landline? Do you have a new cell phone number?
Do you have a new email address? Have you gotten married, moved?**

Now is the time to let us know ALL this new information so we can better serve you!

We are updating our records and we need you to make this happen.

We are asking everyone to update our contact information for our parishioners in both parishes. Please visit our website at www.ststthomasjohn.org and click on the **UPDATE MY INFO** button on the homepage. Then select **REGISTER for NEW parishioners** OR select the second option to **UPDATE MY INFO**. Please fill out all the information including how you prefer to contribute (online giving or envelopes) and anything else to update our database.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the parish office

email: michelle@ststthomasjohn.org

or call and ask for Michelle at STA: 973-208-0090 / SJV 973-697-6550.

*St. Thomas the Apostle and Saint John Vianney offers **SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS***

A spiritual bouquet is a tradition of offering prayers as a gift. It is a tangible way of letting others know that you prayed for them. This gift of prayer will be remembered at the weekend Masses at our parish and the names will be placed on the altar for an entire month. Visit the parish office for Spiritual Bouquet cards. We ask for a \$20 donation for each intention.

Acts of Kindness ❤️ Outreach to the Homebound

Let's remember our parishioners who are homebound, in assisted living, or in nursing homes with a card, visit, or phone call to brighten their day.

Carmela (Mel) Houlihan 6 Aztec Trail, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

Tess Martin 200 Bristol Glen Drive Apt. 414 Newton, NJ 07860

If you would like to add someone's contact information to this list, please email it to Lynn at dmccart4@optonline.net or call 973-970-5335.

We just concluded the most holiest time of our liturgical calendar; Palm Sunday, Holy Week and ending with Easter Sunday. It is a giant undertaking to clean and beautify our church, organize mailings and bulletins, setting up chairs and everything else that helps to keep our church running. A detailed Thank You to all our St. Thomas the Apostle volunteers will be in next week's bulletin as I want to be sure to include everyone.

God Bless!

Fr. Ben



"TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON"

A TIME TO BE HEALED

Prayers for the sick: Kathy Brennen, Kevin Wickert, Fumiko Lutz, Patricia Carapola, Gail Brennan, Richard Lavelle, Stephen Vecchiotti, Vincent Ottani, Darlene Kolakovic, Kenny Miscisak, Emily Schmidt, Tim Lambert, Nancy, Sebastian Drellick, Frank Weber, Carole DeCepoli, Bert DeLuca, Maryellen Leppard, Kelly Cokinos Fleming, Sophia Brandt, Elaine M., Joey Dyl, Antionette Volpe, Paul Pini, Jimmy Bariso, Joanne, Noreen Schuk, Katherine Kaiser, Danielle Peece, Chris Day, Carmela Houlihan, Sharon VanDyke, Karen McCarthy, Robert Martin, Ashlyn Lausch, Jim, Barbara Eckert, Sandor Heitler, Kevin Corman, Lily, Nicholas Falzarano, Paul Farruggia, Val Ciaburri, Thomas Sharkey, Lisa Litterri, Norbert Kalokira, Michael Savage, Guy Bakera, Shannon Murphy Flannery, Brenda, Debra Williams Robarge, Joe Stanley Karen (Karre) Hagman, Al Nichols, Helen O'Neill, William O'Neill, Chrissy O'Neill and Dorothy Liaosa.

A TIME TO MOURN

Prayers for the deceased: Joan DeVito, Al Cannarozzi, Jr., Angelina (Angel) Pappianne, Frank Wilpert, Jeffrey Ryan, Frank Scillieri, Etzer Jerome, Rita Rugel, Alice Warren, Joseph T. Murphy, Joseph F. Dooley, Patricia (Pat) Snouffer, Amy Snouffer, Joan Myszka, Crescia (Chris) Osborne, Ray Troxell, Barbara Runz, Joseph Carabillo, John R. Gadbois, Elizabeth A. O'Donnel, Tommy Gigante, Thomas Joyce, Richard "Dick" Martin, James (Jim) Cerullo, Jr., Mario Provenzano, Richard Alheidt, William H. Osbun, Lynn Padula Brennan, Daniel Morales, Joseph Spagna, Carol Corazza, Amy Alheidt, Dominick Restuccia, Helen Engle, Stanley Fautas, Robert Michael Allender II, Alfanso Bruccoleri, Anthony (Tony) Campana, Elaine J. Marone, Delores Carhart, Lynda McTigue, Karen Dulfer, Joe Carrier, William "Bill" Feuss, John Golden, Noreen Nuzzo, William Marone and Ed & Grace Battaglia, Richard Sandervan, Rosina Gleeson, Mary Ann Castiglia, Rich Day, Dolly Petrosino, Dorothy Konner, Diana J. Matthews, June Day, Joseph Farawell, Anne Cooper, Peter Joyce, Tommy Klein, Andy Dambach, Rick DeYoung, John Gleason, Dolores M. Urcinole, Angela Feldman, Brenda Nussbaum, Frank Bagnati, Anthony Tran, Zdzislaw Lewicki, Jack Furman, Lillian Agovino, Courtney Sanchelli, Joan Castringnano, Robert Paiva, Adreinn Kovacs, Jim Hastings, Krzysztof J. Sek, Mrs. Lopez, Agapita Espinosa, Michael Smith and Rick Karas.

A TIME FOR PEACE

We pray for those in our parish who are+ currently serving in the armed forces especially: Staff Sgt. Antoino Lettizia, USMC, OSSN (SW) Anthony S. Gambuti, US Navy, Captain Andrew Verdes, Haley Kerrison Lt1, Army, 2nd Lt. Clara Fetter, USMC, USAF Airman Andrew Babich, Chaplin Major Jhon Madrid, Airman Gianna Perez, USAF and Lt. Col. Colleen O'Brien, Army, Paul Letizia Sergeant USMC, Sergeant Thomas J. Soules III, US Army, PFC Thomas Young, Army National Guard and PFC Thomas Young, Army, PFC Kyle Peters, Army, Nicholas Roberts, US Navy, Petty Officer Miguel A. Rodriguez USN and Ret. Master Chief Miguel Rodriguez, USN *In honor of the Military serving our country at home and abroad, we invite you to recite three (3) Hail Mary's for their safety. We also pray for the family and friends of those listed*

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BAPTISM

Baptisms are held at both parishes. If you are a first time parents you must attend a Baptism Preparation class. Baptism Classes are held Mondays at STA 7:00pm and Saturdays at SJV 10:00am check our website for dates.

For more information and to register for Baptism: www.ststjohns.org

MARRIAGES

Prior to your booking of the reception, please call the Parish Office 1 year in advance of the wedding date to allow for proper pre-marital preparation.

Knights of Columbus Council Meetings

St. John Vianney Council #12649 meets at Saint John Vianney the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Joseph Lamb Council #5510 meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Wiegand Farm.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: A parishioner is one who belongs to the parish family. As such, they are registered and committed through participation in the life of the parish. In order for marriages to be administered and for Sponsor Certificates, recommendations, etc. to be issued by the office, the person requesting must be a registered online: ststjohns.org and active member of Saint John Vianney or Saint Thomas the Apostle.

We request that you register when you move into our community so that we may be of service to you. Please use the QR code register.

"If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office and Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNeil at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. T. Mark Condon, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 Ext. 205 or Sister Theresa Lee, FMA, Chancellor / Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 Ext. 248. The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan Web site: www.patersondiocese.org.

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